AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-20 (cancelled).

21 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system comprising the combination of

(i) a porous support

(ii) a polymerisation catalyst, and

(iii) a cocatalyst

charaterised in that an inert material is added to the porous support.

22 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 21 wherein the porous support is treated with the inert material prior to the contact of the support with the other components.

23 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 21 wherein the inert material is chosen from hydrocarbon liquids, oils or waxes.

24 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 23 wherein the hydrocarbon liquid is a C_5-C_8 alkane.

25 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 21 wherein the inert material is polyisobutene.

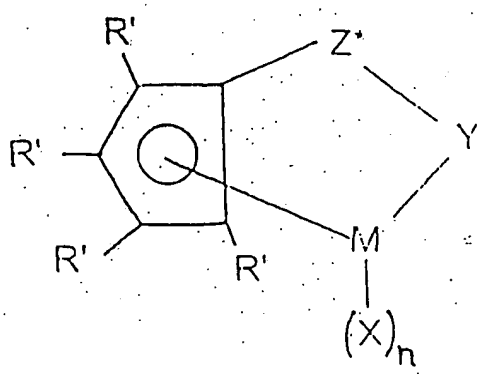
26 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 21 wherein the inert material is added to the porous support at less than or equal to the pore volume of the support.

27 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 21 wherein the porous support is silica.

28 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 21 wherein the polymerisation catalyst is a transition metal compound.

29 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 28 wherein the transition metal compound is a metallocene.

30 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 29 wherein the metallocene has the formula



wherein:-

R' each occurrence is independently selected from hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, silyl, germyl, halo, cyano, and combinations thereof, said R' having up to 20 nonhydrogen atoms, and optionally, two R' groups (where R' is not hydrogen, halo or cyano) together form a divalent derivative thereof connected to adjacent positions of the cyclopentadienyl ring to form a fused ring structure;

X is hydride or a moiety selected from the group consisting of halo, alkyl, aryl, aryloxy, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, amidoalkyl, siloxyalkyl etc. having up to 20 non-hydrogen atoms and neutral Lewis base ligands having up to 20 non-hydrogen atoms,

Y is -O-, -S-, -NR*-, -PR*-,

M is hafnium, titanium or zirconium,

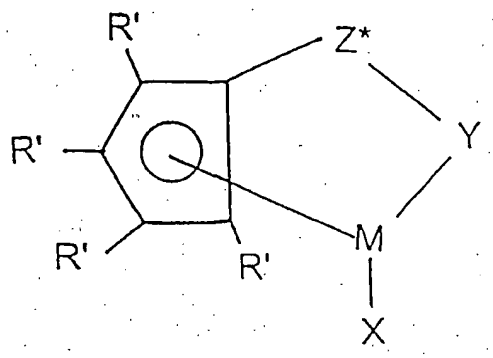
Z* is SiR^*_2, CR^*_2, $SiR^*_2SIR^*_2$, $CR^*_2CR^*_2$, $CR^*=CR^*$, $CR^*_2SIR^*_2$, or GeR^*_2, wherein:

R* each occurrence is independently hydrogen, or a member selected from hydrocarbyl, silyl, halogenated alkyl, halogenated aryl, and combinations thereof, said

R* having up to 10 non-hydrogen atoms, and optionally, two R* groups from Z* (when R* is not hydrogen), or an R* group from Z* and an R* group from Y form a ring system,

and n is 1 or 2 depending on the valence of M.

31 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 29 wherein the metallocene has the formula



wherein:-

R' each occurrence is independently selected from hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, silyl, germyl, halo, cyano, and combinations thereof, said R' having up to 20 nonhydrogen atoms, and optionally, two R' groups (where R' is not hydrogen, halo or cyano) together form a divalent derivative thereof connected to adjacent positions of the cyclopentadienyl ring to form a fused ring structure;

X is a neutral η^4 bonded diene group having up to 30 non-hydrogen atoms, which forms a π-complex with M;

Y is -O-, -S-, -NR*-, -PR*-,

M is titanium or zirconium in the + 2 formal oxidation state;

Z* is SiR^*_2, CR^*_2, $SiR^*_2SIR^*_2$, $CR^*_2CR^*_2$, $CR^*=CR^*$, $CR^*_2SIR^*_2$, or GeR^*_2, wherein:

R* each occurrence is independently hydrogen, or a member selected from hydrocarbyl, silyl, halogenated alkyl, halogenated aryl, and combinations thereof, said R* having up to 10 non-hydrogen atoms, and optionally, two R* groups from Z* (when R* is not hydrogen), or an R* group from Z* and an R* group from Y form a ring system.

system.

32 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 21 wherein the cocatalyst has the formula

$$(L^*\text{-}H)^+_d\ (A^{d-})$$

wherein

L^* is a neutral Lewis base

$(L^*\text{-}H)^+_d$ is a Bronsted acid

A^{d-} is a non-coordinating compatible anion having a charge of d^-, and

d is an integer from 1 to 3.

33 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 32 wherein the cocatalyt comprises a cation and an anion wherein the anion has at least one substituent comprising a moiety having an active hydrogen.

34 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system comprising the combination of

(i) a porous support,

(ii) a polymerisation catalyst, and

(iii) a cocatalyst,

characterised in that an inert material and a polymerisable monomer are added to the porous support.

35 (new). A supported polymerisation catalyst system according to claim 34 wherein the polymerisable monomer is 1-hexene.

36 (new). A process for the polymerisation of olefin monomers selected from (a) ethylene, (b) propylene (c) mixtures of ethylene and propylene and (d) mixtures of (a), (b) or (c) with one or more other alpha-olefins, said process performed in the presence of a supported polymerisation catalyst system as claimed in claim 21.

37 (new). A process for the polymerisation of ethylene or the copolymerisation of ethylene and α-olefins having from 3 to 10 carbon atoms, said process performed under polymerisation conditions in the present of a polymerisation catalyst system as claimed in claim 21.

38 (new). A process according to claim 37 wherein the α-olefin is 1-butene, 1-hexene, 4-methyl-1-pentene or 1-octene.

39 (new). A process according to claim 36 performed in the gas phase.

40 (new). A process according to claim 39 performed in a fluidised bed gas phase reactor.